

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 ABF-01 ACDA-19 AEC-11 RSR-01 OMB-01 /110 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2376

INFO SECDEF

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07708

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MARR, MCAP, NATO, FR, UK

SUBJECT: GALLEY- CARRINGTON MEETING

1. HOCKADAY (DEP UNDERSECRETARY, MOD) HAS GIVEN US MOD IMPRESSIONS OF RECENT GALLEY- CARRINGTON MEETING HERE. FEW SPECIFICS WERE DISCUSSED, WITH MAIN BRITISH GOAL BEING ESTABLISHMENT OF GOOD CLIMATE FOR SUBSEQUENT EXCHANGES. LORD CARRINGTON FOUND GALLEY EXTREMELY AMIABLE, OPEN AND MUCH LESS DOGMATIC THAN HIS PRE-DECESSOR. ALTHOUGH HE SAID IT MAY ONLY BE WISHFUL THINKING, HOCKADAY STATED THEY GAINED IMPRESSION FRENCH MAY BE NEARING POINT WHERE THEY WILL BEGIN TO MOVE BACK AT LEAST PART WAY TOWARD THEIR EUROPEAN NATO PARTNERS. AS PROVEN GAULLIST AND SON- IN- LAW OF GEN LECLERC, GALLEY COULD BE MAN TO BEGIN PROCESS.

2. GALLEY EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR HIGH PRO-
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PORTION OF DEFENSE BUDGET DEVOTED TO NUCLEAR PROGRAM
(AND CONSEQUENT DEPRIVATION OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES).
ALTHOUGH HOCKADAY BELIEVES THIS SITUATION INEVITABLY
MUST CALL INTO QUESTION CURRENT FRENCH STRATEGY,
EXTENT OF GALLEY' S PRESENT THINKING (AT LEAST SO FAR
AS HE REVEALED IT TO THE BRITISH) IS INTER ALIA TO
SEEK COST REDUCTIONS IN R& D AND WEAPONS PRODUCTION BY
UNDERTAKING BI- OR TRILATERAL PROJECTS WITH FRANCE' S
EUROPEAN PARTNERS. EUROGROUP STILL IS ANATHEMA AT
THE ELYSEE PALACE, BUT BRITISH BELIEVE COOP LOGISTIC
FIELD HAS REAL POTENTIAL BOTH IN ITSELF AND AS MEANS
TO END. IN LATTER CONTEXT, MOD HOPES EXPLOIT CONCERNS
NOTED ABOVE AND TO USE CONTINUED FRENCH PARTICIPATION
IN CNAD AS BRIDGE ACROSS WHICH FRENCH CAN BE INCHED
TOWARD EURONAD BACKDOOR.

3. NUCLEAR MATTERS WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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